

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05989 241556 Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NIC-01 RSR-01 /092 W

----- 024988

R 241448 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9058

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 5989

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: PRAVDA ESCALATES WATERGATE COVERAGE

REF: MOSCOW 5563

1. PRAVDA AND ALL OTHER MAIN NEWSPAPERS OF MAY 24 CARRIED PROMPT TASS COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT NIXON' S MAY 22 WRITTEN STATEMENTS ON WATERGATE. ( PRESIDENT' S FIRST WATERGATE SPEECH ON NATIONWIDE TV HAD GONE UNREPORTED). PUBLICATION OF PRESIDENT' S WRITTEN DENIALS HAD EFFECT OF CLEARLY INDICATING FOR FIRST TIME TO SOVIET READERS EXISTENCE OF ALLEGATIONS OF POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL INVOLVMENT IN SCANDAL.

2. NEVERTHELESS, THERE WAS NO HINT OF SOVIET CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT NIXON. PRAVDA SYMPATHETICALLY QUOTED PRESIDENT NIXON' S DEFENSE FOR AUTHORIZING WIRE- TAPPING AND OTHER CLADESTINE INTELLIGENCE GATHERING MEASURES BY THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE GROUP IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND HIS REMAKRS ABOUT " CLIMATE OF SENSATIONALISM" SURROUNDING AFFAIR. PRESIDENT' S EXPLANATIONS AND PROMISES TO EXPOSE ANY WRONGDOINGS EXTENSIVELY QUOTED.

3. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO HINT OF SOVIET CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT  
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NIXON, INCREASED RESPONSIVENESS OF SOVIET PRESS TO UNFOLDING  
CHAIN OF EVENTS INDICATES SOVIETS RELUCTANTLY TAKING WATERGATE  
MORE SERIOUSLY THAN EARLIER.  
DUBS

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PFOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MOSCOW05989  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730553/aaaajsui.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 MOSCOW 5563  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <03-Dec-2001 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980304  
**Subject:** PRAVDA ESCALATES WATERGATE COVERAGE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UR, US  
**To:** EUR  
MUNICH  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005